



## SYNOPSIS OF INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE CHANGES

**NOTE: The City of Midland has adopted the 2009 International Residential Code and it becomes effective September 1, 2010. All projects submitted for a permit after September 1<sup>st</sup> shall meet the requirements of the adopted 2009 codes with the City of Midland Amendments.**

1. Modification to R106.3.1 - Approval of Construction Documents: Two (2) sets of plans shall be submitted, one returned to the applicant with approval letter or stamp, which will be available on the job site and other retained by the building official. (2009)\* **Additional City of Midland submittal requirements including a dimensioned site plan with driveway and sidewalk details and completed ResCheck forms. ( City staff will no longer complete this document for applicants)**
2. Modification to Table R301.5 - Minimum Uniformly Distributed Live Loads: The criteria for determining a limited attic storage area now considers the required depth of the insulation relative to the truss bottom chord. Habitable attics and attics served by a fixed stairs shall have a minimum uniform live load of 30psf. (2009)\*
3. Modification to R311.1 - Means of Egress: New language clarifies that the means of egress ends when the occupant reaches grade at the exterior of the building and there are no requirement past that point. Also required means of egress shall be allowed through a garage with a 36" service door. (2009)\*
4. Modification to R311.3.1 and R311.3.2 - Floor Elevations at Required Egress and Other Exterior Doors: The landings shall not be more than 7  $\frac{3}{4}$ " below the top of the threshold. (2009)\*
5. New Section R315 - Carbon Monoxide Alarms: For new construction, an approved carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms in a dwelling unit with fuel-fired appliances and in dwelling units with attached garages. (2009)\*
6. Modification to R317.1 9 - Fire Separation of Two-Family Dwellings: An additional method of separating dwelling units in a 2 family dwelling now allows for fire-resistive protection at the ceiling line of each unit rather than a the wall line in the attic. (2006)\*

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7. New Section R506.2.4 - Reinforcement Support: The placement and support requirements for reinforcement in concrete slab floors on ground were added (reinforcement is required to be supported to remain in place from the center to upper 1/3 of the slab). (2006)\*
8. Modification to R613.1 - General Window Installation Instructions: Windows are required to be installed per the manufacturers written instructions and the manufacturer is required to provide written instructions with each window. (2006)\*
9. New Section R613.2 - Window Sills: Provisions have been added for window sill heights and protection of fall for operable windows where the window sill is located more than 6 feet above finish grade (Sills of operable windows must be a minimum of 24 inches above finish floor or properly protected). (2006)\*
10. New Section R702.4.2 - Cement, Fiber-Cement and Glass Mat Gypsum Backers: "Green Gypsum Board" is no longer allowed to be as backer behind tiled tub and shower walls. (2006)\*
11. Modification to R703.7.3 - Lintels: Steel lintels supporting masonry above openings are now required to have a shop coat of rust-inhibitive primer or be of corrosion-resistant steel or steel coated with a corrosion resistive material (primed, stainless or galvanized lintels required). (2009)\*
12. Deletion in R703.8 - Flashing: The provisions for self-flashing windows have been eliminated (all windows require additional flashing materials). (2006)\*
13. New Section R806.4 - Conditioned Attic Assemblies: New provisions for conditioned attic spaces have been introduced for increased energy efficiency. (2006)\*
14. New Section R907.3 - Recovering versus Replacement: New #4 does not allow recovering of an asphalt shingle roof. The existing roof covering must first be removed (due to the hail damage exposure). (2006)\*
15. New Section N1101.8 - Certificate: Requires that the energy-efficiency certificate be posted inside the electrical panel. (2006)\*

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16. Clarification of N1102.4.1 - Sealing of Building Thermal Envelope: Attic access openings and rim joist junctions have been added to the list of specific locations requiring sealing to prevent air infiltration. (2009)\*
17. Modification to N1102.4.5 - Recessed lighting: All recessed light fixtures in the building thermal envelope must be insulation contact (IC) rated. Additionally these fixtures must be sealed where they penetrate the wall or ceiling material. (gaskets or caulk between the housing and wall or ceiling covering). (2009)\*
18. New Section N1103.1.1 - Programmable thermostat: Where the primary heating system is a forced air furnace, at least one thermostat per dwelling unit shall be a programmable type thermostat. Initial program for heating set point shall be 70F and cooling set point 78F. (2009)\*
19. Modification to N1103.2.1 - Duct Insulation: Supply ducts in attics shall insulated to a minimum of R-8. All other ducts shall be insulated to a minimum of R-6. Ducts or portions thereof located completely inside the building thermal envelope are exempt. (2006)\*
20. New Section N1104 - Lighting Systems: To conserve energy at least 50 percent of the lamps in permanently installed lighting fixtures must be compact fluorescent or other high-efficacy lamps. (2009)\*
21. Clarification for M1305.1 - Appliance Access for Inspection, Service, Repair and Replacement: A level surface 30 inches by 30 inches shall be installed in front of the control side of the appliance to allow inspection, service and repair. (2006)\*
22. New Section M1308.3 - Foundation and Supports: Outdoor mechanical equipment shall be raised at least 3 inches above finish grade. (2006)\*
23. New Section M1501.1 - Outdoor Discharge: The air removed by every mechanical exhaust system is required to discharged to the outdoors (Attics, soffits, ridge vents and crawl spaces are not allowed locations to discharge air from exhaust). (2006)\*

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24. New Section M1503.4 - Makeup Air for Kitchen Exhaust Hoods: Exhaust hood systems capable of exhausting in excess of 400 cfm shall be provided with make up air at a rate approximately equal to the exhaust. This system shall be equipped with a method of closure and shall be automatically controlled to start and operate simultaneously with the exhaust system. (2009)\*
25. New Section M1601.6 - Independent Garage HVAC Systems: An HVAC system is not permitted to serve both the dwelling unit and garage. (2009)\*
26. New Section G2415.4 - Underground Penetrations Prohibited: Gas piping in no longer permitted to enter or exit a building below grade. (2009)\*
27. Addition to G2422.1 - Connecting Appliances: Corrugated stainless steel tubing (CSST) is allowed as an appliance connector. (2006)\*
28. New Section G2447.5 - Vertical Clearance above Cooking Top: Clearance requirement have been added to the Fuel Gas Code. In general kitchen cabinets must located a minimum 30 inches above the surface of the range or cooktop. Above stove microwaves and metal range hoods are allowed to be 24 inches above the cooking surface. (2009)\*
29. New Section P2708.1.1 - Access: The shower compartment access and egress opening shall have a minimum clear and unobstructed finished width of 22 inches. (2006)\*
30. New Section P2904 - Dwelling Fire Sprinkler Systems: This section is a prescriptive design approach for dwelling fire sprinkler systems without referencing NFPA 13D. (2009)\*
31. Modification to E3609.3 - Intersystem Bonding Termination: Bonding terminations for communications, satellite and cable television grounding conductors are now required in one of three prescribed and accessible locations. (2009)\*
32. Modification to E3901 - Required Receptacle Outlets: Receptacle outlets that are controlled by a wall switch are no longer counted as contributing to the required outlet distribution in a specified room or area. (2009)\*

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- 33. Modification to E3902.11 - Arc-Fault Protection: Arc-fault protection for branch circuits has been expanded to include all habitable spaces (except kitchens), hallways, closets and similar areas. Only a combination type arc-fault circuit interrupter is permitted and it must protect the entire branch circuit. (2009)\*
- 34. New Section E4002.14 - Tamper-Resistant Receptacles: Listed tamper-resistant receptacles are required for all 125-volt outlets in dwelling units, on the outside of dwelling units and in attached and detached garages. (2009)\*

**Note: (2006)\* or (2009)\* identifies the code year that the item was added or modified. The items above are a partial list of the changes to the Code. There were many additional changes that were not listed that could impact a project and should be reviewed prior to submitting for a Permit.**